Tyler Pirrung

Mrs. Patterson

AP English Literature – 5

3 April 2012

Poetry Project Annotation – Romantic Period

1. Speaker
   * **Who is the speaker?** *A boy, perhaps Poe himself embodied into a character.*
   * **What is the speaker's point of view?** *First person; he is reminiscing on his past and current relationship with Annabell Lee.*
   * **Who is the speaker's audience?** *Any and all readers.*
   * **What is the speaker's topic, argument, etc.?** *The death of a young beautiful girl. It has been said that the speaker is Poe as a character and Annabell Lee is his wife, Virginia.*
2. Tone
   * **What is the dominant tone in the poem?** *Melancholy, morose, contemplative*
   * **Does the tone of the poem shift? Where? Why?** *The tone shifts from one of reverent happiness to contemplative melancholy around line 13 because the speaker goes from happily reminiscing about his love for Annabell Lee to grieving the circumstances of her death.*
3. Imagery
   * **Using the five senses (feel, hear, see, smell, taste) isolate the main images** *Blew (15), chilling (16), dissever (32), beams (34), bright (36)*
   * **What is suggested by the use of the images?** *“Blew,” “chilling,” and “dissever” all bring about a sense of negativity and sadness while “beams” and “bright” bring about a sense of happiness, as the speaker is describing his young love.*
   * **Do the images provoke an emotion or idea? How?** *The first three images bring about a sad and dreary emotion through pathos while the last two bring about a happy yet sad emotion in how the speaker is still in love despite having lost his beautiful love.*
4. Figurative Language
   * *Poe ends every other line with either “sea,” “Lee,” or “me.”*
5. Sound
   * **What sound elements are the most prominent? Why?** *None*
   * **How does the sound element help to reinforce the meaning of the poem.**
6. Theme
   * **What is the theme of the poem?** *The death of a young and beautiful woman*
   * **What is the purpose of the poem?** *To show the grieving process of a young man and how his and Annabell Lee’s love was so strong that he feels their souls are forever intertwined.*
   * **How does the poem help to exemplify the theme?** *It travels from when they were young children to her death and his realization of how important and deep their bond went.*